

Message Text

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21

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGR-10 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07

LAB-04 NSAE-00 SP-02 STR-04 TRSE-00 CIEP-02 FRB-01

OMB-01 PA-02 PRS-01 USIE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 OES-05

HEW-06 /065 W

----- 078062

O 310908Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY OSLO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 668

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM IMMEDIATE

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS OSLO 4812

STATE PASS AGRICULTURE AND LABOR

COPENHAGEN FOR AGRICULTURE ATTACHE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, EAGR, NO, US

SUBJ: NORWEGIAN PARLIAMENTARIANS SUPPORT CALIFORNIA GRAPE
AND LETTUCE BOYCOTT

REFS: (A) OSLO 3830 (B) OSLO 3483

1. VAST MAJORITY OF NORWEGIAN STORTING (PARLIAMENT)
HAS SIGNED OPEN LETTER SUPPORTING UNITED FARM WORKERS
BOYCOTT OF NON-EAGLE-BRAND CALIFORNIA GRAPES AND LETTUCE.
LETTER MADE PUBLIC ON NATIONWIDE TV OCTOBER 29 AND IN
PRESS NEXT DAY, IS SIGNED BY 114 OF 155 STORTINGSMEN,
INCLUDING MAJORITY OF ALL PARTIES EXCEPT
CONSERVATIVES (OF WHOME ABOUT ONE THIRD SIGNED) AND
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ANDERS LANGE PARTY (NONE.). LETTER IS SIGNED BY

STORTINGSMEN AS INDIVIDUALS, HAS NO OFFICIAL EFFECT AND COMMITS NEITHER STORTING NOR PARTIES, BUT IS PRESTIGIOUS APPEAL TO COOPERATE IN BOYCOTT. IT WAS REPORTEDLY MAILED TO 100 NORWEGIAN FRUIT AND VEGETABLE IMPORTERS.

2. LETTER IS RESULT OF PERSISTENT BUTTONHOLING OF INDIVIDUAL LEGISLATORS BY NORWEGIAN UFWA SPOKESMAN HELGE KRISTOFFERSEN, WHO HAD TO TONE DOWN HIS ORIGINAL LETTER CONSIDERABLY TO OBTAIN SIGNATURES. PREVIOUS VOCAL SUPPORT OF BOYCOTT BY NORWEGIAN LABOR AND CHURCH LEADERS WAS INSTRUMENTAL IN OBTAINING HEAVY SUPPORT FROM LABOR AND CHRISTIAN PEOPLE'S PARTIES. LETTER APPEALS FOR NORWEGIANS TO SUPPORT UFWA, AFL-CIO, IN "STRUGGLE FOR FUNDAMENTAL SOCIAL AND TRADE UNION RIGHTS", PRAISES UFWA FOR COLLECTIVE BARGAINING PROVISIONS WHICH MAKE EAGLE BRAND "GUARANTEE AGAINST USE OF HARMFUL PESTICIDES IN FRUITS AND EGETABLES WE IMPORT FROM CALIFORNIA" AND URGES NORWEGIANS TO JOIN ICFTU AND WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES IN SUPPORTING BOYCOTT.

3. LETTER MAKES NO REFERENCE TO NEW CALIFORNIA AGRICULTURAL LEGISLATION. REPORT FROM CALIFORNIA BY NORWEGIAN JOURNALIST, STEIN SAVIK, ON UFWA-TEAMSTER COMPETITION IN ELECTIONS UNDER NEW LAW APPEARED IN "AFTENPOSTEN", NORWAY'S LEADING NEWSPAPER, ON OCTOBER 29 AND WILL HELP GIVE MOR COMPLETE PICTURE OF SITUATION IN U.S.

4. CONSUMER BOYCOTTS HERE USUALLY HAVE LITTLE IMPACT AFTER SHORT PERIOD OF ENTHUSIASM, BUT IT IS DIFFICULT TO GAUGE EFFECT STORTING LETTER WILL HAVE ON IMPORTERS NOW FACING DECISIONS ABOUT ORDERING. MOST EFFECTIVE NORWEGIAN ACTION SUPPORTING BOYCOTT, NAMELY HARBOR WORKERS REFUSAL TO UNLOAD NON-EAGLE-BRAND LETTUCE AND GRAPES FROM CALIFORNIA, ENDED QUIETLY IN SEPTEMBER WHEN TRANSPORT WORKERS UNION CALLED IT OFF. POTENTIAL VALUE OF NORWEGIAN GRAPE IMPORTS FROM CALIFORNIA IS ABOUT UNCLASSIFIED

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ONE MILLION DOLLARS, MOST OF WHICH ARE ALREADY ORDERED.

5. TEXT OF LETTER FOLLOWS SEPTTEL.

6. COMMENT: WE HAVE SUFFICIENT MATERIAL ON CALIFORNIA FARM LABOR LEGISLATION AND ELECTIONS, BUT IN VIEW OF EMPHASIS PLACED ON PESTICIDE QUESTION HERE, EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION DEPT CAN

OBTAIN FOR OUR USE TO HELP CLARIFY THE REQUIREMENTS
FOR AND USE OF PESTICIDES ON FRUITS AND VEGETABLES
EXPORTED FROM CALIFORNIA.
BYRNE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CENTRAL LEGISLATURE, BOYCOTTS, LABOR UNIONS, VEGETABLES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 31 OCT 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975OSLO04812
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750378-0491
From: OSLO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975101/aaaaaaqe.tel
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Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Review Date: 28 OCT 2003
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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06 JUL 2006

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TAGS: ELAB, EAGR, NO, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
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